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quinqueseta (Mx.) under the name *H. Michauxii*, Nutt., and *H. repens*, Nutt.

An interesting question in nomenclature is suggested by the author's use of *H. fimbriata*, Wight, for a species of the East Indies. Wight in 1852 adopted this name apparently under the impression that the *Platanthera fimbriata* of Willdenow, applied to a different genus, which would leave him at liberty to use it for *Habenaria*. But the name *fimbriata* must be rejected both in this case as well as in the case of our own *fimbriata*, so-called, as it was employed by Aiton in 1813 as a synonym of *H. psycodes* (L.), Asa Gray. T. M.

Rabenhorst's Kryptogamen Flora, Part 21, pp. 449-512 (1893), Mniaceæ and Meeseaceæ. Several changes in the genus *Mnium* which affect our North American species are of interest: *M. Seligeri*, Milde (1869), and *M. rugicum*, Laurer (1827), are separated from *M. affine*, Bland, the leaves of the former being long-decurrent at base with the marginal teeth one-celled, the second indistinctly toothed with base short-decurrent, and the last also short-decurrent, but the teeth composed of 2-4 cells. None of the older names adopted by Lindberg are accepted. E. G. B.

Proceedings of the Club.

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 9TH, 1893.

The President in the chair and 32 persons present.

Miss Gertrude Appleby, of New York, was elected an Active Member.

The committee appointed at the meeting of April 11th, 1893, to draw up a suitable minute regarding the death of M. Alphonse De Candolle for publication in the proceedings of the Club, presented the following report, which was accepted:

M. Alphonse De Candolle, an Honorary Member of this Club and one of the most eminent botanists of our time, died at Geneva, Switzerland, April 4th, 1893, in the 87th year of his age.

He was born at Paris, but resided most of his life in and near Geneva. He was a son of the equally famous Augustin Pyramus De Candolle, and was associated with him in much of the botani-

cal work that has made the family name a household word in the science of all countries.

On the death of his father in 1841 he succeeded to the authorship and editorship of the "Prodromus systematis naturalis regni vegetabilis," the great work in which the elder De Candolle hoped to concisely describe all the known plants of the world, his name appearing on the title page of the eighth volume, issued in 1841, and continuing up to the issue of the seventeenth, in 1873, when the work was abandoned, its place being taken by the "Monographiæ Phanerogamorum," a series of seven thick volumes of which has been printed. Among his earliest works is the noteworthy "Monographie des Campanulées," a quarto of 384 pages and 20 plates, issued in 1830, M. De Candolle being then but 24 years old. In later years he devoted himself to the study of geographical distribution, and in 1855 his "Geographie botanique raisonnée" appeared in two volumes of 1366 pages. He was the moving spirit in the International Botanical Congress, held at Paris in 1867, when the modern laws of botanical nomenclature were framed; and if these had been carried out in the way they were intended, there would have been no necessity for the recent movements to secure a stable system of plant names. More recently he has critically investigated the origin and history of cultivated plants, and published numerous papers on this subject, bringing together in his "Origin of Cultivated Plants," in 1882, about all the reliable information that was then extant.

In view of the loss which botanical science has experienced by his death, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That by the death of Alphonse De Candolle, after a long life rich in contributions to the knowledge of mankind, botanical science has suffered an irreparable loss; and

Resolved, That the sympathy of the TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB is extended to the family of the deceased savant.

N. L. BRITTON,

HENRY H. RUSBY,

Committee.

The Acting Secretary directed attention to the prospectus of the Hodgkins Fund Prizes for investigations and essays on the nature of atmospheric air, issued by the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. Small exhibited specimens of *Catharinea crispa* from Atlantic Highlands, N. J., adding another to the few localities known for this moss. It occurred in abundance at this station.

Mr. Theodore G. White read a paper entitled "Preliminary Notes on the North American Species of *Lathyrus*," illustrated by specimens. The paper was discussed by Judge Brown and Dr. Morong.

Dr. Britton delivered an illustrated lecture on the "Structure and Classification of Grasses."

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 31ST, 1893.

Vice-President Morong in the chair and 21 persons present.

Dr. Morong exhibited fruits of the Doum palm, *Hyphæne Thibetica*, brought by Miss Vail from Egypt; also a fruit of *Mauritia flexuosa*, the Miniti or Ita palm of Brazil.

Dr. Britton remarked on *Pyrola oxypetala*, Austin, known only from the original station at Deposit, Delaware County, N. Y., and exhibited one of the type specimens. He also stated that in company with Professor Porter he had observed at the Nockamixon Rocks, Bucks county, Penna., on May 30th, *Senecio aureus*, L., and *Senecio Balsamitæ*, Muhl, growing side by side in a marshy meadow; the former was in full bloom, while the latter showed no signs of expanding its involucre. He maintained that it is a distinct species, and not a variety of *S. aureus*.

Dr. Britton also showed a copy of a pamphlet entitled "The Torrey Festival," which contains an account of the proceedings at the dinner given to Dr. Torrey, December 20, 1867, by the Botanical Club of New York, under which name the Torrey Botanical Club first met, in commemoration of the completion, in 1817, of the "Catalogue of Plants Growing within Thirty Miles of New York."

The announced paper of the evening was by Mr. John K. Small and Miss Anna Murray Vail, on "A Report of the Exploration of Southern Virginia during the Summer of 1892." Herbarium specimens of the more interesting species collected were shown, among them some 12 new to the range of Gray's Manual. The paper will be published in the MEMOIRS.

Mr. Lighthipe reported *Lupinus perennis* with white flowers

from near Princeton, N. J., *Helonias bullata* from the same locality, and *Mertensia Virginica* from Rocky Hill, N. J.

Dr. Morong reported *Silene Pennsylvanica* with white flowers from Woodhaven, Long Island.

A general discussion on the occurrence of albinism followed, in which remarks were made by Dr. Morong, Miss Vail, Mrs. Britton and Mr. Lighthipe.

Index to Recent Literature Relating to American Botany.

Adventitious Budding in Æsculus Hippocastanum. Walter C. Kerr (Proc. Nat. Sci. Assoc. Staten Island, April 8, 1893).

Ascyrum Crux-Andree (Meehan's Month, iii. 65).

Bacteria in Vegetable Tissue—Non-Parasitic. H. L. Russell (Bot. Gaz. xviii. 93).

Beitrage zur Kenntniss exotischer Sphagna. C. Warnstorf. (Hedwigia, 1893, 1–17, plates i–iv. reprinted).

Several corrections of American specimens and species are made, and all those who have been sending material to Dr. Warnstorf for naming will do well to consult this publication. Several changes are made in Macoun's Canadian mosses, and the range of several species is extended. *S. Labradorensis*, Warnst., *S. Lindbergii*, Schpr., *S. Floridanum*, Cardot, *S. Mendocinum*, S. & L., *S. Dusenii*, C. Jensen, *S. Gurgensohnii*, Russ., var. and *S. Garberi*, L. & J., are described and figured.

Botanical Laboratory in Pharmaceutical Manufacture—The work of a. John S. Wright (Science xxi. 183).

Botanical Notes from Texas. E. N. Plank. (Gard. and For. vi. 162.) Notes on *Sesbania Cavanillesii*, *S. vesicaria*, *Oxalis dichondraefolia*, *Prunus Caroliniana*, *Xanthoxylum Fagara*, *Clematis Drummondii* and others.

Botanical Survey of Nebraska. Report on Collections made in 1892 (pp. 46, Univ. Neb. 1893).

This pamphlet contains (1) Flora of the Sand Hill Region of Sheridan and Cherry Counties, and List of Plants collected on a Journey through the Sand Hills in July and August, 1892, by Jared G. Smith and Roscoe Pound, including sixteen plants new